

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 8, as follows:

On the basis of such presumption, the familiarity R can be calculated according to, for example, Eq. (1) given below.

$$R = a \times (N/N_{max}) + (1 - a) \times (\underline{N_{area}}/N_{full}) \dots (1)$$

In the above equation, a stands for a weighting constant set arbitrarily within a range of 0.0 to 1.0; N stands for the number of times of recognition to identify as the same person in the past with regard to the face region A1 being recognized now; Nmax for the maximum value (10 in the example of FIG. 4) in the numbers of times of recognition stored in the familiarity database FDB; Narea for the area of the face region A1 being recognized now; and Nfull for the area of the entire region being shot.